

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 4, 7, 16/7 (dependent on claim 7), 17/4 (dependent on claim 4) and 17/7 (dependent on claim 7).

Claims 1-3, 5, 8, 10, 12-15, 16/2, 16/5, 16/6, 16/10, 16/14, 16/15, 17/1-17/3, 17/5, 17/6, 17/8, 17/10, 17/12-17/15 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al.; and claims 9, 11, 16/11, 17/9 and 17/11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim et al. in view of Kudo.

The above rejections are traversed. Kim et al. has a publication date of January 20, 2005, and has an effective filing date of May 26, 2004. On the other hand, the filing date of the present application is January 21, 2004, which is earlier than the effective filing date of Kim et al.. Therefore, Kim et al. is not prior art as to the present application (see 35 U.S.C. §102(e)). Applicants, thus, respectfully solicit withdrawal of each of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102(e) and 103(a).

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Recognition under 37 C.F.R. 10.9(b)

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